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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0313

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
 )  
Christopher D. ENDARA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
 )  
Application No.: 10/731,153 ) Examiner: Unknown  
 )  
Filed: December 10, 2003 )  
 )  
For: CLEVIS ASSEMBLIES FOR ) Confirmation No.: 4806  
MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS AND )  
METHODS OF MANUFACTURE )  
OF SAME )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Applicants believe this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art

against any claim in the application, and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 2, 2004

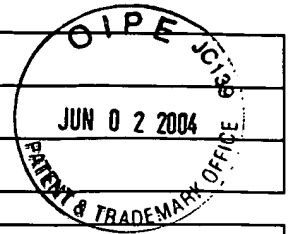
By: \_\_\_\_\_



Michael W. Kim  
Reg. No. 51, 880

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	06530.0313	Appln. No.	10/731,153
Applicant	Christopher D. ENDARA et al.		
Filing Date	December 10, 2003	Group:	3731



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,707,392	01/1998	Kortenbach			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce